

SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT (803)734-0640 • RFA.SC.GOV/IMPACTS

Bill Number: H. 3309 Signed by Governor on May 14, 2020

Author: Cobb-Hunter

Subject: Statewide Sexual Assault Kit Tracking System

Requestor: House of Representatives

RFA Analyst(s): Gardner

Impact Date: November 20, 2020

Fiscal Impact Summary

As the State Law Enforcement Division is still in the process of evaluating the cost of the development of a sexual assault kit tracking system, the expenditure impact of the bill on the agency's General Funds is undetermined.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Signed by Governor on May 14, 2020 State Expenditure

This bill requires the State Law Enforcement Division (SLED) to create and operate a statewide sexual assault kit tracking system. SLED may contract with in-state or out-of-state information technology entities to create, operate, and maintain this system. The purpose of the system is to track the location and status of sexual assaults kits throughout the criminal justice process. The system will be accessible to and may be updated by medical facilities, law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, and others having custody of sexual assault kits. It will also allow victims of sexual assault to anonymously track or receive updates regarding the status of their kits.

The bill allows SLED to employ a phased implementation process to launch the system based on priority of region, volume, or other appropriate classification. All custodians of sexual assault kits must participate in the system no later than June 1, 2021. SLED is responsible for submitting to the House and Senate Judiciary committees and the Governor an initial report on the status of the system and its implementation plan by January 1, 2020. Thereafter, SLED must submit to the noted committees and the Governor a semiannual report on the statewide tracking system, the first report being due on July 31, 2021, and subsequent reports being due on January 31st and July 31st of each year. The semiannual reports must include information on the following (note that each requires figures to be presented by jurisdiction and statewide):

- The total number of sexual assault kits;
- The total and semiannual number of kits where forensic analysis has been completed;
- The number of kits added to the system during the reporting period;
- The total and semiannual number of kits where forensic analysis has been requested but not completed;
- The average and median length of time for kits to be submitted for forensic analysis after addition to the system, divided into data sets for all kits in the system and all kits added to the system;

- The average and median length of time for forensic analysis to be completed on the kits after submission for forensic analysis, divided into data sets for all kits in the system and all kits added to the system;
- The total and semiannual number of kits that have been destroyed or removed from the system;
- The total number of kits where forensic analysis has not been completed and six months or more have passed since the kits were added to the system; and
- The total number of kits where forensic analysis has not been completed and one year or more has passed since the kits were added to the system.

State Law Enforcement Division. This bill requires SLED to create a sexual assault kit tracking system. The agency reports that it has solicited a number of quotes on the development of such a system that range from \$250,000 to more than \$500,000. SLED indicates that the number of end users needing to access the system, which is currently unknown, will affect the overall cost of development. Therefore, the expenditure impact of the bill on the agency's General Funds is undetermined.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

N/A

Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director